

Date: 13 September 2021

Dear Parent or Carer,

Over recent days we have been made aware of several children in our school community who have tested positive for COVID 19 since schools returned on 2 September.

I would like to take time to reassure you that we have taken all necessary actions since hearing this information to keep all children at our school as safe as possible and we have been notifying the Local Authority each day of cases as they have come to light. The school have consulted again today with the Local Authority and we are introducing some additional controls within certain parts of the school to reduce the chances of further spread of the virus. Our school risk assessment will be updated to reflect the changes in practice.

For the next 2 weeks, we will introduce the following controls:

- Staggered break time to reduce mixing on corridors.
- Staggered dismissal at end of day to reduce mixing on corridors
- Adults to wear face masks on corridors and other communal areas
- Whole Year group activities to be suspended eg assemblies
- School trips to indoor spaces or crowded areas suspended eg theatre trips

Following this period of time, we will review the additional measures.

We continue to have cleaning of touch points regularly through the day with additional cleaners on site. There are automatic hand sanitiser stations on each corridor and alcohol gel in classrooms/offices. Students may wear masks in school or in class if they wish, it is a personal choice.

Currently, the most common strain of virus in the UK is called the Delta variant and we have seen a steep rise in COVID-19 cases recently. Evidence suggests the Delta variant spreads more easily than previous strains. It is important that we are vigilant and follow public health messages to stop the spread of the virus

Household testing

Eligible household members should do a rapid test twice each week (every 3 to 4 days) to check if you have the virus. We recommend testing on Sunday and Wednesday, or at the first sign of any symptoms of being unwell with Corona virus. If people test positive and self-isolate, it helps stop the virus spreading. Even if you're vaccinated, there's still a chance you can pass COVID-19 on, so you should keep getting tested regularly. Home test kits are being handed out for students to bring home, or you can access home test kits by following link below: <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>

How to stop COVID-19 spreading

There are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with COVID-19

- wash your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds
- use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- wash your hands as soon as you get home
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards

Further Information

Further information is available at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Symptoms of COVID 19

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

- new continuous cough and/or
- high temperature and/or
- a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

If your child does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from NHS 111 at

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/> or by phoning 119.

Yours sincerely,



Headteacher